

Dr. Laura Resnick Samotin

School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University **July 2022-Present**
Chief of Staff to the Dean and Director of Strategic Partnerships
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Science (classes taught: Theories of Grand Strategy; Foreign Policy Decision Making; co-instructor of Inside the Situation Room with Secretary Hillary Clinton)

EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York, NY **September 2015-January 2022**
PhD, Department of Political Science, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
M.A. awarded May 2016, MPhil awarded May 2018

- Dissertation: *The Militarist Trap: Linking Militarism, (Dis)Integrated Grand Strategy, and Military Efficacy*
Committee: Drs. Stephen Biddle, Jack Snyder, Michael Horowitz, Keren Yarhi-Milo, Max Margulies

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA **September 2010-May 2014**
BA, GPA: 3.95/4.00, Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude with Honors in Political Science

ACADEMIC AND EDITORIAL ARTICLES

- “The Unpredictable Dictators: Why It’s So Hard to Forecast Authoritarian Aggression,” with Keren Yarhi-Milo. *Foreign Affairs*. 4 August 2023.
- “Obstacles to Harnessing Analytic Innovations in Foreign Policy Analysis: A Case Study of Crowdsourcing in the U.S. Intelligence Community,” with Jeff Friedman and Michael Horowitz. *Intelligence and National Security*, 38:4 (2023): 558-575.
- “Why Russian Conscripts Can’t Subdue Ukraine,” with Max Margulies. *Wall Street Journal*. 5 May 2022.
- “A Force for the Future: A High-Reward, Low-Risk Approach to AI Military Innovation,” with Michael Horowitz and Lauren Kahn. *Foreign Affairs*. May/June 2022.
- “What Makes Foreign Policy Teams Tick: Explaining Variation in Group Performance at Geopolitical Forecasting,” with Michael Horowitz, Dustin Tingley, et al. *Journal of Politics*, vol. 81, no. 4. October 2019: 1388-1404.

CHAPTERS

- “American Grand Strategy and the Post-Post-Cold War World,” in *Before and After the Fall*, eds. Nuno Monteiro and Fritz Bartel (Cambridge University Press, 2021), with Don Casler, Mira Rapp-Hooper, and Rebecca Lissner.
- “Flawed Reasoning and Bias,” in *Military Strategy, Joint Operations, and Airpower: An Introduction*, a textbook for the Air Force Academy and a broader military audience (Georgetown University Press, 2018)

WORKS UNDER REVIEW AND WORKING PAPERS

- “The Effect of Submarine Commander Leadership Style on Crew Morale and Targeting Efficacy,” with Stephen Biddle, Columbia University (Project funded by Department of Defense Minerva Grant [Principal Investigators: Stephen Biddle and Eric Min (UCLA)])
- “Driving Too Fast or Too Slow: Analyzing Military Adoption of the Combustion Engine,” with Michael Horowitz, University of Pennsylvania.

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FELLOWSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Stimson Center Non-Resident Senior Fellow, February 2023—Present.
- Atlantic Council Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security. February 2022 – January 2023.
- Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies Inaugural Postdoctoral Research Scholar in National Security and Intelligence, Columbia University. February 2022-February 2023
- Hans J. Morgenthau Pre-Doctoral Fellow in Grand Strategy, University of Notre Dame
- Pre-doctoral fellow for national security and member of the board of academic advisors at the Schwarzenegger Institute for State and Global Policy, University of Southern California.
- Awarded a Cordier Fellowship for 2016-2017 to serve as a teaching assistant for the SIPA Conceptual Foundations course. Fellowship renewed for 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.

GRANTS

- Charles Koch Foundation grant for the study of grand strategy, 2022 (\$33,000)
- Charles Koch Foundation Dissertation Development grant, 2020 and 2021 (\$10,000)
- Scowcroft O'Donnell Grant for archival research, George H.W. Bush Presidential Library, 2020 (\$1200)
- Dissertation Development Grant, Columbia University Political Science Department, 2019 (\$1500).
- Dissertation Development Grant, Columbia University Political Science Department, 2018 (\$1500).
- Travel Grant, Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 2016.
- Travel Grant, Columbia University Political Science Department, 2016.
- Dean's Fellow, Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 2015-2016

AWARDS

- Eisenhower Institute Dissertation Development Grant, 2020 Columbia University Nominee
- Selected as a Lead Teaching Fellow, Columbia University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2018-2019
- Winner of the 2014 Robert Holtz Memorial Prize in political science, granted by the Penn political science department for most outstanding senior thesis
- Member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national undergraduate political science honors society
- Winner of the 2014 Pi Sigma Alpha American Political Science Association membership prize
- University of Pennsylvania Dean's List, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Clements Center Summer Seminar on History and Statecraft, Beaver Creek, CO, 2019
- Cato Institute Junior Scholar Symposium, Washington D.C., 2018
- New Era Foreign Policy Conference (NEFP), School of International Service, American University, Washington, DC, 2018.
- Attended the Summer Workshop on the Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS), sponsored by Columbia University's Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies at Cornell University, July 2016

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CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Presented at the 2022 TISS New Faces Conference, Duke University
- Presented at the 2021 New Wave Realism Conference, hosted by the Mershon Center at Ohio State University (funding provided by the Charles Koch Institute)
- Presented at the 2019 APSA Conference, “Military and Strategic Culture” panel
- Presented at the 2019 International Studies Association conference
- Presenter, Midwest Political Science Association conference, Chicago, IL, 2017

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The Day After Trump Project

June 2018 – June 2020

Researcher

- Member of the Day After Trump Project headed by Drs. Mira Rapp-Hooper and Rebecca Lissner, based at the Yale Law School.
- Responsible for in-depth, hypothesis-generating research on various aspects of American foreign policy, grand strategy, and how the U.S. strategic calculus may change within the next 10-15 years.

Research Assistant

May 2016 – May 2018

Assistant to Dr. Page Fortna

- Assists Dr. Fortna with research on rebel groups, civil war, terrorism, and other related projects. Assists in data collection on the Rebel Group Extremism project.
- Compiled data set on rebel group extremism to be used in an upcoming article on the use of terrorism by rebel groups

Terrorist Alliances Project

Spring 2015

Research Coordinator

- Research coordinator for the Terrorist Alliances Project, a joint research project between the University of Michigan, UVA, and University of Pennsylvania funded by a Minerva Grant from the Department of Defense
- Responsible for managing a team of research assistants, supervising data collection, and assisting Dr. Michael Horowitz and Dr. Phil Potter with project research and management.

The Good Judgment Project, University of Pennsylvania

June 2014-July 2015

Foreign Policy Researcher

- Conducted research on international affairs and American foreign policy for government-sponsored research project at the University of Pennsylvania, led by principal investigators Dr. Philip Tetlock, Dr. Barbara Mellers, and Dr. Michael Horowitz
- Wrote questions on international affairs to be supplied to pool of 10,000 forecasters
- Responsible for designing and releasing surveys to both forecasters and experts around the world, and for analyzing survey results.
- Carried out analyses on project data, including the generation of data sets on question properties
- Co-lead of research project on geopolitical learning on the part of the forecasters across both question content and geography

Research Assistant

January 2014-June 2014

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Assistant to Professor Michael Horowitz

- Conducted research on a wide range of topics, including UAV proliferation and religious warfare, to be used in publications.
- Compiled data set on global state unmanned aerial vehicle possession and development, used in “Droning On: The Proliferation of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and Military Innovation,” *International Organization* 71(2), April 2017.

Research Assistant

January 2012-June 2014

Assistant to Professor Jessica Stanton

- Conducted extensive research over a two-year period on civilian targeting by rebel groups and paramilitary forces in order to generate a data set which was used in *Violence and Restraint in Civil War: Civilian Targeting in the Shadow of International Law*, published by Cambridge University Press.
- Compiled data set for Professor Jessica Stanton on civilian casualties during civil wars, 1945-present, used in: Stanton, Jessica. *Violence and Restraint in Civil War: Civilian Targeting in the Shadow of International Law*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Cordier Fellow

Fall 2016 – Fall 2022

Teaching Fellow, Conceptual Foundations of International Relations

- Instructor of record for three discussion seminars in the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA).
- Responsible for teaching an introductory seminar on international relations to students in the School of International and Public Affairs. A key theme of the course is connecting international relations theory to current issues in policy to prepare students for future policy careers.

Lecturer

Summer 2020 – Summer 2022

INAF S6800: International Relations: Theory and Concepts

- Instructor of record for summer class in the School of General Studies.

Teaching Assistant

Summer 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

ISAF S6387: Terrorism and Counterterrorism

- Teaching assistant for Terrorism and Counterterrorism, a class in the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University taught by Dr. Stuart Gottlieb.
- Responsible for holding office hours for graduate students, assisting with class administration and coordination, and grading student work.

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2015

PSCI 131: American Foreign Policy

- Teaching assistant for American Foreign Policy, a class in the University of Pennsylvania political science department taught by Dr. Michael Horowitz
- Responsible for teaching three weekly recitation sections, holding office hours for undergraduate students, and grading student work.

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Reviewer, *Conflict Management and Peace Science, Journal of Global Security Studies*
- Served as the Columbia University Political Science Department Linkages Chair for 2016-2017, responsible for overseeing new student recruitment and transition into the PhD program
- Reviewed the manuscript *Violence and Restraint in Civil War: Civilian Targeting in the Shadow of International Law*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016) for Dr. Jessica Stanton

SKILLS

- Proficient in STATA and R statistical programming, proficient in statistical analysis of data
- Proficient in Java and Python programming
- Advanced user of Qualtrics survey software
- Intermediate written and spoken French language skills